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Joint Spruce Budworms Program Formalized

The Canada/U.S. Spruce Budworms Program was officially launched on August 5, 1977, when Romeo LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries and the Environment of Canada added his signature to a Memorandum of Understanding previously signed by Bob Bergland, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The agreement outlines a joint, 6 year Program aimed at providing safe and economical controls for the spruce budworm (*Choristoneura fumiferana*) and the western spruce budworm (*C. occidentalis*), and at developing management strategies for budworm susceptible forests. This cooperative effort between the two countries includes developing and improving methods of assessing and predicting budworm population levels; improving existing control technology and developing new environmentally acceptable control techniques; and providing integrated pest and resource management systems. The United States and Canada have cooperated for many years in the exchange of information on SBW — in the Redbook meeting, work conferences, and professional meetings. Continuation and expansion of efforts to exchange information, technology, and experience are essential to the success of the international Program.

Canada-United States Spruce Budworms Program Joint Policy and Program Council

Left to right: (seated) Dr. Robert Bouchier and Dr. Robert Buckman; (standing) Dr. George Green, Herbert M. Clarke, Dr. Fred Knight, Philip Thornton, Dr. John Sullivan and Dr. Murray Neilson.

Organizational Structure

The Canada/U.S. Spruce Budworms Program has been organized to feature joint leadership at several management levels. John McGuire, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, and Jim Bruce, Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental Management Service, are the top line officers. The Joint Policy and Program Council (JPPC) has four members from each country. Their mission is to assure maximum cooperation and coordination between Canada and the United States and to provide guidelines for the Joint Planning Unit.

The Joint Policy and Program Council members are:
Robert E. Buckman (Cochairman), Deputy Chief for Research, Forest Service, USDA.
Philip L. Thornton, Deputy Chief for State & Private Forestry, Forest Service, USDA.

John D. Sullivan, Natural Resources and Special Programs, Cooperative Research, Science and Education Administration.
Fred B. Knight, Director, School of Forest Resources, University of Maine.
Robert Bouchier (Cochairman), Director General, Canadian Forestry Service, Ottawa.
Murray Neilson, Acting Director, Maritimes Forestry Research Centre, Fredericton, New Brunswick.
George Green, Director, FPMI, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
H. N. Clarke, Deputy Minister, Forestry and Agriculture, Newfoundland

The Joint Planning Unit (JPU) also has four members from each country. The JPU provides a staff function to the Council by evaluating Program plans developed by Program Leaders and Planning Committees, and by recommending adjustment when necessary.

The Joint Planning Unit members are:
Ross Macdonald, Director of Forest Protection, Canadian Forestry Service, Ottawa, (Cochairman).
Frank Webb, Executive Secretary, Eastern Spruce Budworm Council, Fredericton, New Brunswick.
Murray Neilson, Acting Director, Maritimes Forestry Research Centre, Fredericton, New Brunswick.
Joe Carroll, Director, NFLD Forest Research Centre. Director, (to be appointed), Forest Insect and Disease Research, Forest Service, USDA, (Cochairman).
James D. Stewart, Director, Forest Insect and Disease Management, Forest Service, USDA.
E. Bradford Walker, Director of Forests, Vermont Department of Forests and Parks.
Jay M. Hughes, Dean, College of Forestry and Natural Resources, Colorado State University.

U.S. and Canada each have a Program Leader. They will administer the Program and facilitate coordination within and between the Canadian and U.S. components. Mel McKnight (USFS) in Washington, D.C., is the U.S. Program Leader. Chuck Buckner (CFS) in Ottawa is the Canadian Program Leader.

U.S. Establishes Special Program Management Team

In the U.S., Assistant Secretary of Agriculture M. Rupert Cutler has directed the Forest Service to lead the U.S. participation in the joint Program. Ongoing and accelerated R&D activities in the U.S. Forest Service will be supplemented with a strong extra-mural program involving universities, State and Federal agencies, and other sources of expertise. The Forest Service will organize and carry out an accelerated R&D program. This program will feature the same elements of cooperation, coordination, strict accountability at all levels, and adherence to time schedules that have made the USDA Combined Forest Pest Programs (gypsy moth, Douglas-fir tussock moth, southern pine beetle) so successful.

In response to this direction, the Forest Service has organized its part of the Program into two components — eastern and western — coordinated through the Program Leader. Dan Schmitt, as Program Manager, will head the eastern component. He is stationed at the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, 370 Reed Road, Broomall, Pennsylvania 19008. Max W. McFadden will run the western component. He is located at the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, 809 NE 6th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97208. Both Program Managers, who will report to their Station Directors, are responsible for planning, organizing, monitoring, and reporting all aspects of the Program within their respective components.

Staff assistance to the U.S. Program Managers will be provided by an Applications Coordinator and a Research Coordinator in each component. The eastern Applications Coordinator is David G. Grimbale. Thomas Flavell is the western component Applications Coordinator. Research Coordinators for each component will be named soon.

The Canadian Planning Committee

Canada has established a Canadian Planning Committee (CPC) for the purpose of reviewing the Canadian elements of the plan. Members of the CPC are:

Chuck Buckner, Program Leader (Chairman)
Ross Macdonald, Director of Forest Protection
Frank Webb, Executive Secretary, Eastern Spruce Budworm Council (ESBC)
Don Owen, Western counterpart of the ESBC
Bud Irving, Representing N.B.
Yvon Hardy, Representing P.Q.
Rod Carrow, Representing Ontario

Provincial representatives are members at the option of their respective Provinces.

The CPC met for the first time on February 15, 1978. At that meeting terms of references were established and guidelines were set. The composition of the CPC is intended to provide adequate "user" input into the program.

Planning Workshops

Key planning events in the joint Spruce Budworms Program were the Western and Eastern Planning Workshops. The Western Workshop was held December 12-16, 1977, in Portland; the Eastern meeting in Montreal on January 9-13, 1978. University scientists and land managers as well as researchers from CFS and USFS, participated in both meetings. Total attendance at each meeting was about 75 people. Spokesmen for resource managers in Canada and the U.S. presented position papers, stating their specific needs for better information and technology to cope with the spruce budworms. (We intend to summarize the resource managers' viewpoints in a future NEWSLETTER.) The investigators and resource managers then reviewed and revised a plan developed some years ago to meet those needs.

Composite Plan

It fell to the shoulders of Chuck Buckner and Mel McKnight to combine the revised plans produced at Portland and Montreal. Their joint effort produced the draft Convergence Analysis. The document includes essentially all the recommendations from both workshops. In its present form the draft Convergence Analysis reflects both the long-standing Canadian research program and the intended U.S. approach of accelerated R&D activities on the spruce budworms. From this composite plan and subsequent revisions, the Canadian establishments and the Program Managers of the eastern and western (U.S.) components will select activities to be completed by their respective programs in the next 6 years.

Joint Planning Unit Meeting

The third meeting of the JPU was held in Ottawa on March 1-2, 1978. Meeting separately and jointly the Canadian and U.S. members reviewed the draft Convergence Analysis and the Fiscal Year 1978 Plan of Work and Budget (United States), and agreed to submit both to the JPPC. Canadian members at the Joint Planning Unit meeting identified the following areas for immediate attention: Spray technology, pheromones, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, and western budworm moth dispersal. *Followup:* Jack Armstrong (FPMI) has been invited to serve on a USFS work group that is developing a problem analysis for aerial pesticide application technology. Western spruce budworm moth dispersal will be investigated by the western (U.S.) component in cooperation with the CFS Pacific Forest Research Centre at Victoria.

Joint Policy and Program Council

The first meeting of the JPPC was held March 16 in Washington, D.C. It was cochaired by Bob Buckman (USFS) and Bob Bouchier (CFS). During the meeting, on recommendation from the Joint Planning Unit, the Council accepted the draft Convergence Analysis as the first stage of joint planning for the Program. More definitive plans will be expected for the next Council meeting. This will be held in late summer at a still-to-be-selected location in Canada.

Other actions include recommendations to the Program Leaders to develop a joint, international NEWSLETTER and a relatively uniform inventory system to include, as far as possible, the total spruce budworms research and development effort in both countries. The Council recommended approval of the Fiscal Year 1978 Plan of Work and Budget for the U.S. *Followup:* Chief John McGuire approved the Fiscal Year 1978 plans and budget on March 22, thus authorizing distribution of available funds as recommended by the U.S. Program Managers and directed by the U.S. Program Leader.



CANUSA Product Leaders

Left: Chuck Buckner, Canada; Right: Mel McKnight, U.S.A.

Continued Planning Efforts

Presently, in Canada, a task force is being developed to review the current Canadian Forestry Service (CFS) research program on the eastern spruce budworm. Following this Canadian review, the draft Convergence Analysis will be revised to reflect current knowledge and task force recommendations on priorities and emphasis for budworm research in eastern Canada. In the United States, Max McFadden, Daniel Schmitt, and their assistants will also be reviewing and revising the Convergence Analysis to develop their component programs including, where appropriate, analysis of the western spruce budworm problem in British Columbia. Integration of the results of these planning efforts is a responsibility of the Program Leaders.

Western Proposals Reviewed

Solicitation of research, development, and application proposals for the western (U.S.) component began in January. By late February a surprisingly large number of proposals had poured in from potential cooperators representing university, Federal, and private interests in both the U.S. and Canada. A team of 10 reviewers, competent in a variety of subject areas, met in Portland on March 15-16 to make recommendations to Program Management. During the March meeting 65 proposals were screened. Funding will begin soon.

Working Groups Taking Shape in the Western (U.S.) Component

Technical working groups will provide the "nerve centers" for communication and coordination in the Spruce Budworms Program. Investigators will form the core of each working group, but participation will be open to all interested scientists, administrators, and "user groups."

Working groups will normally meet once each year, probably in the spring, to discuss the last season's field work and to coordinate field studies for the coming season. Meeting summaries will be distributed to program investigators and cooperators.

Max McFadden has announced the first round of working group meetings the week of May 1-5. For details, call the western component office on (503) 234-3361, extension 4823.

Program Leader Wanderings

The Program Leaders aren't really "wandering" but they are doing a lot of travelling and "spreading the word" on the Program:

Annual State and Private Forestry (USFS), Coordination Meeting; Albuquerque, N. Mex.; August 31, 1977 (McKnight).

Eastern Spruce Budworm Council; Orono, Maine; September 21, 1977 (Buckner and McKnight).

Entomological Society of America, Eastern Branch; Boston, Mass.; September 24, 1977 (McKnight).

Northern Rockies Forest Pest Action Council; Missoula, Mont.; October 11, 1977 (Buckner and McKnight).

Eastern Spruce Budworm Council; Quebec City; October 17, 1977 (Buckner and McKnight).

Pacific Forest Research Centre, Spruce Budworm Review; Victoria, B.C.; October 21, 1977 (Buckner).

North American Forestry Commission, Study Group

of Forest Insects and Disease; Valle de Bravo, Mexico; November 7-11, 1977 (Buckner and McKnight).

Pest Control Forum; Ottawa, Ontario; December 7-8, 1977 (Buckner and McKnight).

Western Planning Workshop; Portland, Ore.;

December 12-16, 1977 (Buckner and McKnight).

Eastern Planning Workshop; Montreal; January 9-13, 1978 (Buckner and McKnight).

2nd Annual Eastern Spruce Budworm Work Conference; Orono, Maine; January 16-18, 1978 (Buckner and McKnight).

Redbook Meeting; Toronto; February 22-23, 1978 (Buckner and McKnight).

Seminar; Cooperative Research, Science and Education Administration; Washington, D.C., February 24, 1978 (McKnight).

Western Forest Insect Work Conference; Durango, Colo., March 7, 1978 (McKnight).

Maritimes Forest Research Centre; Fredericton, N.B.; and Newfoundland Forest Research Centre; St.

John's, Newfoundland; March 6-10, 1978 (Buckner).

Northeastern Forest Pest Council; Boston, Mass.; March 14, 1978 (McKnight).

WO Staff Directors (USFS); Washington, D.C.; March 17, 1978 (Buckner and McKnight).